

## Ahlstrom revises down 2008 outlook

**Ahlstrom expects full-year operating profit to remain at 2007's level.**

The Finnish company had earlier estimated that its full-year operating profit would improve on last year. Operating profit, excluding non-recurring items, was €67.8 million in 2007. But because of continued weakness in demand for certain products, Ahlstrom has revised down its full-year outlook for 2008.

Ahlstrom says that softness in demand is especially visible in the USA in products such as wiping fabrics, filtration and nonwovens for cars, housing filtration materials, as well as in glassfiber reinforcement applications for the marine industry.

For further information, visit [www.ahlstrom.com](http://www.ahlstrom.com)

## Flanders to relocate corporate HQ

**Flanders Corp is moving corporate functions to its Washington, North Carolina facility from St Petersburg, Florida, USA.**

The current St Petersburg corporate office is a stand-alone complex detached from the manufacturing facilities.

Harry Smith, Flanders chief operating officer, said: "The company has been

evaluating all operations for the past year. We are striving to develop a company model with the lowest overhead in the air filtration industry. We will continue to identify non-performing operations and address them accordingly, during the fourth quarter of 2008. Our focus is to deliver world-class products at a reasonable price and to be the leader in innovation in our industry. We will continue to invest in IT, automation, and new technology."

For further information visit [www.flanderscorp.com](http://www.flanderscorp.com)

## Parkson expands in the Middle East

**Parkson Corp has opened a new regional office in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to support its growing business in the Middle East and North Africa.**

"As the first leg of our global expansion, we are excited about our new office in Dubai," said Zain Mahmood, president and CEO of Parkson. "This region, with significant water stress and need, is an ideal market for Parkson's extended line of products in water and wastewater treatment and provides a tremendous opportunity for Parkson to be successful in helping this region reuse water in a sustainable manner for the long term."

Parkson, a subsidiary of Axel Johnson Inc, has already received its first purchase order through the new office – an order from Saudi Aramco in Saudi Arabia.

For further information, visit [www.parkson.com](http://www.parkson.com)

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## Exchange Rates against the US Dollar

Date: 9.10.2008

Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Australia	A\$1.51	Netherlands	€0.74
Austria	€0.74	Norway	NKr6.23
Belgium	€0.74	Philippines	Peso47.88
Canada	C\$1.18	Singapore	S\$1.48
China	Yn6.84	South Africa	R9.29
Denmark	DKr5.50	South Korea	KWn1381.60
Finland	€0.74	Spain	€0.74
France	€0.74	Sweden	SKr7.13
Germany	€0.74	Switzerland	SFr1.12
India	Rs48.68	Taiwan	T\$32.50
Italy	€0.74	Thailand	Bt34.10
Japan	¥99.43	UK	£0.59
Malaysia	Rt3.51	USA	US\$1.00